

a3 8. (Amended) A photonic crystal fibre, as claimed in claim 1 in which the region of lower refractive index is a low pressure region.

9. (Amended) A photonic crystal fibre, as claimed in claim 1, in which the lower index region comprises a material having a non-linear optical response, whereby light may be generated by non-linear processes in the lower-index region.

a4 12. (Amended) An optical device, including photonic crystal fibre according to claim 1.

17. (Amended) A telecommunications system, including a photonic crystal fibre according to claim 1.

18. (Amended) A telecommunications system, including an optical device according to claim 12.

19. (Amended) A telecommunications network including a telecommunications system according to claim 17.

a6 22. (Amended) A method, as claimed in claim 20, in which the cavity has a transverse dimension greater than the corresponding transverse dimension of any of the canes.

a7 24. (Amended) A method, as claimed in claim 20, in which the stack of canes comprises canes which are capillaries.

a8 26. (Amended) A method, as claimed in claim 24, in which the capillaries are filled with a material other than air.

27. (Amended) A photonic crystal fibre made by a method as claimed in claim 20.

30. (Amended) A method of transmitting light along a photonic crystal fibre, the fibre being a fibre as claimed in claim 1.

no step of transmitting (claim 12)

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